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(58) Field of Search

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Online: WPI, EPODOC, PAJ, INSPEC, XPESP, IBM TDB,
IEL, COMPUTER, Selected Internet sites

(54) Abstract Title

Automatic downloading for mobile computing devices

(57) A method of automatically downloading from the Internet for a wireless device (such as a PDA or mobile phone, where data is downloaded from predefined addresses in accordance with a prearranged schedule. The information to be downloaded, as well as the scheduled download times, may be a mixture of predefined and user-selected information and download times. In accordance with a schedule stored in the PDA, a connection is made to the Internet through the wireless mobile phone and the required information is downloaded.

*User interface
Default Screen*

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	
URL	Time
http://www.netcastinfo.com/voedem	03:00
http://www.yahoo.com/example/la	03:15
Pre-set information package	
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Information Package Advance	
<input type="checkbox"/> Local News (source: OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
<input type="checkbox"/> International News (source: OrientalDaily .tom.com)	
Start	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.1

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

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PADS-PDA Automatic Download Scheduler

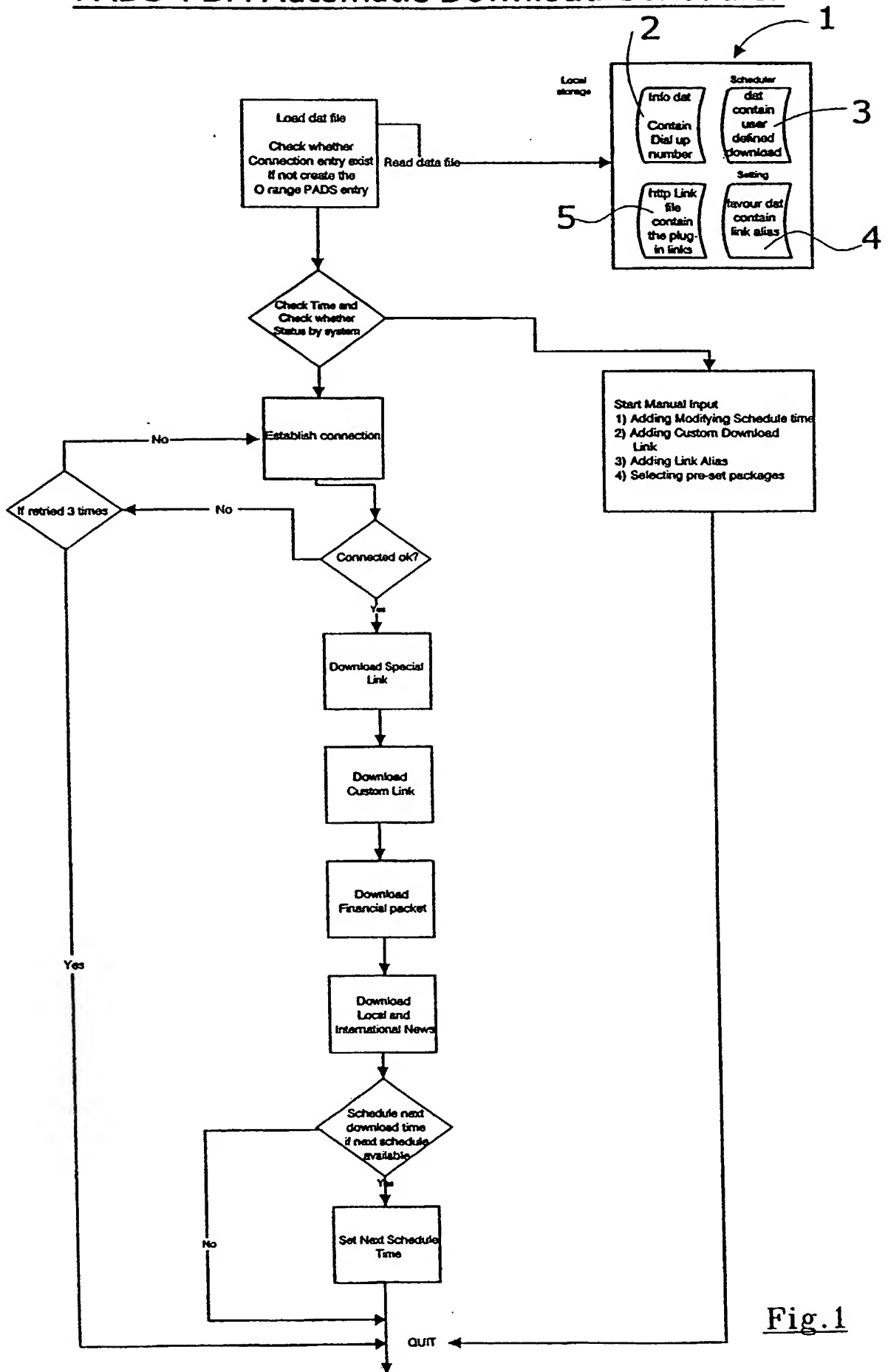


Fig.1

Fig. 2.2.2

Scheduler 14:45 @	
Custom Download	
URL	Time
http://www.netcastto.com/cedem	03:00
http://www.yahoo.com/example/h	03:15
US news	03:00
Pre-set information package [] Financial Information Package <u>Advanced</u> [] Local News(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)] [] International News (source:OrientalDaily .tom.com)	
<div>Start</div>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig. 2.5

Fig. 2.4

Fig. 2.3

<div> <div>Scheduler</div> <div>14:45</div> </div>	
Custom Download	
<div>URL</div> <div> http://www.netcastinfo.com/codem http://www.yahoo.com/example/n Financial information package </div>	<div>Time</div> <div> 03:00 03:15 08:00 </div>

Alias: US news

URL: www.cnn.com

Add to Favorite

OK

Cancel

Scheduler	14:45	
Custom Download		
URL	Time	
http://www.indonesia.co.id/en	03:09	
http://www.yahoo.com/indonesia/	03:19	
Us news	03:06	
Pre-set information package		
[] Financial Information Package	Advance	
[] Local News(source:OrientalDaily.com.com)		
[] International News (source:OrientalDaily .com.com)		
		Start
New URL Favorite File		

Fig. 2.6

Scheduler 14:45 @	
Custom Download	Time
URL	Time
http://www.netcrafts.com/coden	03:00
http://www.veolia.com/veolia/	03:15
Use name	03:00

Pre-set Information package

- ☐ Financial Information Package **Advance**
- ☐ Local News(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)
- ☐ International News
 (source:OrientalDaily .tom.com)

Start

New Favorite File

Fig. 2.11

Delete URL

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL Http://www.netcastinfo.com/cedem http://www.yahoo.com/example/la US news	03:00 03:15 03:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Information Package Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
New URL Favorite File Start	

Fig.2.15

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL Http://www.netcastinfo.com/cedem http://www.yahoo.com/example/la US news	03:00 03:15 03:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Information Package Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
Edit URL Edit schedule Delete URL Start	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.16

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL Http://www.netcastinfo.com/cedem http://www.yahoo.com/example/la US news	03:00 03:15 03:00
Delete the selected URL? OK Cancel	
Pre-set Information package <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Information Package Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
New URL Favorite File Start	

Fig.2.17

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL Http://www.netcastinfo.com/cedem http://www.yahoo.com/example/la US news	03:00 03:15 03:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Information Package Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
New URL Favorite File Start	

Fig.2.19

Scheduler 14:45	
Financial Information package	Time
<input type="checkbox"/> HK stock charts Stock Number: <input type="text"/> Add Delete	03:00 03:15 03:00
HSI Chart <input type="checkbox"/> Boom.com <input type="checkbox"/> Boom.com <input type="checkbox"/> hkt.com <input type="checkbox"/> hkt.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stock Market Commentary (source:hkt.com)	
Local Foreign Confirm	

Fig.2.20

Scheduler 14:45	
Financial Information package	Time
<input type="checkbox"/> HK stock charts Stock Number: <input type="text"/> Add Delete	03:00 03:15 03:00
HSI Chart <input type="checkbox"/> Boom.com <input type="checkbox"/> Boom.com <input type="checkbox"/> hkt.com <input type="checkbox"/> hkt.com	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stock Market Commentary (source:hkt.com)	
Local Foreign Confirm	

Fig.2.21

Scheduler 14:45	
Financial Information package	Time
HK London Stock (source:Boom.com) Stock Number: <input type="text"/> Add Delete	03:00 03:15 03:00
<input type="checkbox"/> Stock Market Commentary (source:hkt.com) <input type="checkbox"/> US <input type="checkbox"/> UK <input type="checkbox"/> JAP <input type="checkbox"/> JAP <input type="checkbox"/> FRA <input type="checkbox"/> Sing <input type="checkbox"/> Seoul <input type="checkbox"/> TWN	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stock Market Commentary (source:hkt.com) <input type="checkbox"/> US <input type="checkbox"/> UK <input type="checkbox"/> JAP <input type="checkbox"/> JAP <input type="checkbox"/> FRA <input type="checkbox"/> Sing <input type="checkbox"/> Seoul <input type="checkbox"/> TWN	
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial news(source:Boom.com)	
Local Foreign Confirm	

Fig.2.22

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL Http://www.netcastinfo.com/cedem http://www.yahoo.com/example/la US news	03:00 03:15 03:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Information Package Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) <input type="checkbox"/> Commodities (source:Boom.com)	
New URL Favorite File Start	

Fig.2.23

add Favorite

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL http://www.orientaldaily.com/	03:00 06:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="radio"/> Financial Information Package [Advance] <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.com.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.com.com)	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.24

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL http://www.orientaldaily.com/	03:00 06:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="radio"/> Financial Information Package [Advance] <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.com.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.com.com)	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.29

Scheduler 14:45	
My Favorite	URL
Alias US news Picture	www.cnn.com www.sonyinualc.com.hk.mtv
FAVOITE: <input type="text"/> URL: <input type="text"/>	
<input type="button" value="Add"/> <input type="button" value="Add to Download"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	
<input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="OK"/>	

Fig.2.25

Scheduler 14:45	
My Favorite	URL
Alias US news Picture Compaq	www.cnn.com www.sonyinualc.com.hk.mtv www.compaq.com
FAVOITE: <input type="text"/> URL: <input type="text"/>	
<input type="button" value="Add"/> <input type="button" value="Add to Download"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	
<input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="OK"/>	

Fig.2.30

Scheduler 14:45	
My Favorite	URL
Alias US news Picture Compaq	www.cnn.com www.sonyinualc.com.hk.mtv www.compaq.com
FAVOITE: <input type="text"/> URL: <input type="text"/>	
<input type="button" value="Add"/> <input type="button" value="Add to Download"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	
<input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="OK"/>	

Fig.2.27

Scheduler 14:45	
My Favorite	URL
Alias US news Picture Compaq	www.cnn.com www.sonyinualc.com.hk.mtv www.compaq.com
FAVOITE: <input type="text"/> URL: <input type="text"/>	
<input type="button" value="Add"/> <input type="button" value="Add to Download"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	
<input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="OK"/>	

Fig.2.32

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL http://www.orientaldaily.com/	03:00 06:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="radio"/> Financial Information Package [Advance] <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.com.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.com.com)	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.28

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	Time
URL http://www.orientaldaily.com/	03:00 06:00
Pre-set Information package <input type="radio"/> Financial Information Package [Advance] <input type="checkbox"/> Local news(source:OrientalDaily.com.com) <input type="checkbox"/> International news (source:OrientalDaily.com.com)	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.33

Set Favorite for download

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	
URL	Time
http://www.compaq.com	03:30
US news	03:00
Financial Information Package	03:30
Pre-set Information package • Financial Information Package [Advance] [] Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) [] International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.34

Scheduler 08:05	
Custom Download	
URL	Time
http://www.compaq.com	03:30
US news	03:00
Financial Information Package	03:30
Compaq	
Pre-set Information package • Financial Information Package [Advance] [] Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) [] International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.38

Scheduler 14:45	
My Favorite	
Alias	URL
	www.compaq.com
Picture	www.sonyinfo.com.hk.mty
Favorite	www.sonyinfo.com.hk.mty
FAVOURITE: URL:	
<input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="Add to Download"/> <input type="button" value="OK"/>	<input type="button" value="Cancel"/>

Fig.2.35

Scheduler 08:05	
Custom Download	
URL	Time
http://www.compaq.com	03:30
US news	03:00
Financial Information Package	03:30
Compaq	
Pre-set Information package • Financial Information Package [Advance] [] Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) [] International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
<input type="button" value="Update scheduler"/>	
<input type="button" value="browse"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.39

Scheduler 14:45	
Http://www.compaq.com	
Start download at	Start Time
Every 0	03:30
Maximum connection time 30 Minutes 0	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday <input type="checkbox"/> Monday <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday	<input type="button" value="Select All"/> <input type="button" value="Reset All"/>
<input type="button" value="OK"/>	<input type="button" value="Cancel"/>

Fig.2.36

Scheduler 08:05	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yahoo.html <input type="checkbox"/> 0001234-news.htm <input type="checkbox"/> 0001747-news.htm <input type="checkbox"/> 1002048-index.gif <input type="checkbox"/> top10.gif	
back	

Fig.2.40

Scheduler 14:45	
Custom Download	
URL	Time
http://www.compaq.com	03:30
US news	03:00
Financial Information Package	03:30
Compaq	
Pre-set Information package • Financial Information Package [Advance] [] Local news(source:OrientalDaily.tom.com) [] International news (source:OrientalDaily.tom.com)	
<input type="button" value="Start"/>	
New URL Favorite File	

Fig.2.37

AUTOMATIC DOWNLOADING FOR
MOBILE COMPUTING DEVICES

This invention relates to providing automatic downloading of data to mobile
5 computing devices.

Increasingly small mobile wireless computing devices are becoming increasingly
popular. Such devices include personal digital assistants (PDAs) and third generation
mobile phones that in addition to acting as communication devices also have a degree of
computing power. Such devices are provided with means for accessing the Internet
10 through a wireless phone connection. In the case of third generation wireless mobile
phones this connection to the Internet is made through the phone itself, for PDAs and like
devices a modem card may be provided that allows the PDA or the like to access the
Internet through a mobile phone.

Such wireless mobile computing devices allow a user to access a wide range of
15 information. The present invention aims to enhance the services offered by such devices
and thus to make them still more convenient for a user.

According to the present invention there is provided a method for automatically
downloading data to a wireless mobile computing device, comprising automatically
connecting the mobile computing device to the Internet through a wireless mobile phone
20 in accordance with a prearranged schedule stored in said mobile computing device, and
downloading desired data from the Internet from predefined data sources, the addresses
of said data sources being stored in said mobile computing device.

An advantage of the present invention is that in a preferred embodiment at least some of the data sources may be freely chosen by a user. In addition, or alternatively, however, at least some of said data sources may be preset in the mobile computing device. If such preset data sources are provided, however, it is preferable that they may
5 be customised by a user.

Preferably a user may set different schedules for downloading data from different sources (eg hourly, daily, weekly and so on) and preferably the schedule may be chosen by a user. A schedule for a download may be a one-off event or may be a recurring event with any desired frequency.

10 The present invention is particularly suitable for implementation with a mobile computing device such as a personal digital assistant and a wireless mobile phone, however it is also possible that the mobile computing device and the wireless mobile phone may be formed as one device.

According to another aspect of the present invention there is further provided a
15 system for automatically downloading data to a wireless mobile computing device, comprising means for automatically connecting the mobile computing device to the Internet through a wireless mobile phone in accordance with a prearranged schedule stored in a memory means of said mobile computing device, and means for downloading desired data from the Internet from predefined data sources, the addresses of said data
20 sources being stored in said memory means of said mobile computing device.

The memory means may include memory storage areas for storing a dial-up number, addresses of desired data sources, download schedules, and aliases and

favourites of said data sources, and the system may comprise means for editing the contents of said memory storage areas.

According to a still further aspect the present invention provides a combination of a wireless mobile computing device and a wireless mobile phone, wherein said mobile
 5 computing device comprises, memory areas for storing details of addresses for desired data downloads and for storing schedules for executing data downloads from said addresses, means for editing the contents of said memory areas, and means for connecting said mobile computing device through said wireless mobile phone to the Internet in accordance with said schedules to execute said downloads.

10 According to a still further aspect the present invention provides a wireless mobile computing device, wherein said mobile computing device comprises, memory areas for storing details of addresses for desired data downloads and for storing schedules for executing data downloads from said addresses, means for editing the contents of said memory areas, and means for connecting said mobile computing device through a
 15 wireless mobile phone to the Internet in accordance with said schedules to execute said downloads.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig.1 is a flowchart illustrating a first embodiment of the invention, and

20 Fig.2 is a series of exemplary screens displayed on a PDA in accordance with an embodiment of the invention.

An important aspect of the present invention, at least in its preferred forms is that it enables a user to predefine custom downloads. A user may enter into a PDA details of

information that is to be downloaded and when. For example, Fig.2 shows a typical series of screens that may be displayed on a PDA.

As shown in Fig.2.1 the screen may have an upper display showing the addresses of websites selected for a customised download. In addition, a series of preset information packages may be provided and which are displayed in the lower half of the screen. These preset packages may include news, financial information and weather from a range of recognised local or overseas sources. A user may select from any of these preset packages that are stored in the PDA and may select any combination of data from these sources for updates at intervals to be determined by the user.

In addition to these preset information sources, however, a user may customise the download by entering details of favourite websites and sources of data. For example, in Figs.2.2 to 2.5 a sequence of screens is shown in which a user enters a command to access www.cnn.com every Thursday at the time 03:30. The website URL is entered along with an alias "US news" which is then added to the part of the screen displaying the pre-stored download addresses. Providing an alias may be helpful in enabling a user to read the screen, as a short easily remembered alias may be simpler to read and remember than a long URL address.

Existing pre-stored addresses may be edited as shown in Figs.2.6 to 2.10. In these Figures one address is selected from the list of prestored addresses and then edited. The schedule, ie the times and frequencies of the downloads, may also be edited by a user as shown in Figs.2.11 to 2.14. The time and frequency of any download can be edited as desired. The schedule for a download may be set as a one-off event, or it may be set as a recurring event with any desired frequency. Different downloads, ie the connections to

7. A method as claimed in any preceding claim wherein a download may be a one-off event or may be a recurring event with any desired frequency.
8. A method as claimed in any preceding claim wherein said mobile computing
5 device and said wireless mobile phone are integrated as one device.
9. A method for automatically downloading data to a wireless mobile computing device substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.
10. A system for automatically downloading data to a wireless mobile computing
10 device, comprising means for automatically connecting the mobile computing device to the Internet through a wireless mobile phone in accordance with a prearranged schedule stored in a memory means of said mobile computing device,
15 and means for downloading desired data from the Internet from predefined data sources, the addresses of said data sources being stored in said memory means of said mobile computing device.
11. A system as claimed in claim 10 wherein said memory means includes memory
20 storage areas for storing a dial-up number, addresses of desired data sources, download schedules, and aliases and favourites of said data sources.

12. A system as claimed in claim 11 comprising means for editing the contents of said memory storage areas.

13. A system for automatically downloading data to a wireless mobile computing device substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

14. A combination of a wireless mobile computing device and a wireless mobile phone, wherein said mobile computing device comprises, memory areas for storing details of addresses for desired data downloads and for storing schedules for executing data downloads from said addresses, means for editing the contents of said memory areas, and means for connecting said mobile computing device through said wireless mobile phone to the Internet in accordance with said schedules to execute said downloads.

15. A wireless mobile computing device, wherein said mobile computing device comprises, memory areas for storing details of addresses for desired data downloads and for storing schedules for executing data downloads from said addresses, means for editing the contents of said memory areas, and means for connecting said mobile computing device through a wireless mobile phone to the Internet in accordance with said schedules to execute said downloads.



Application No: GB 0030677.9
 Claims searched: 1-15

Examiner: Ben Micklewright
 Date of search: 21 June 2002

Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK CI (Ed.T): G4A (AFGN AUSB)

Int CI (Ed.7): G06F (17/30)

Other: Online: WPI, EPODOC, PAJ, INSPEC, XPESP, IBM TDB, IEL, COMPUTER, Selected Internet sites

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X,E	WO 02/01397 A1 (VERTICAL) See e.g. page 3 lines 26-29, page 31 line 17 to page 32 line 7, and page 36 lines 2-10	1-15
X,E	WO 01/18686 A1 (HUH) See e.g. page 3 lines 25-27 and page 9	1-15
X	WO 99/57656 A1 (CITIZEN) See e.g. pages 5,7,8	1-15
X	US 5978842 (NOBLE) See e.g. column 11 and the abstract	1-15
X	US 5978807 (MANO) See whole document, e.g. the abstract	1-15
X	US 5768528 (STUMM) See e.g. the abstract and columns 1,2	1-15
X,E	JP 2001-282672 A (NIPPON) See e.g. the WPI and PAJ abstracts	1-15
X	JP 100187563 A (NIPPON) See e.g. the WPI and PAJ abstracts	1-15
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X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.